

Pebble bed
Annual Fee

From: Sharon Hudson
To: Anthony Rossi; Charlotte Turner; Jesse Funches; Peter Rabideau; Richard Rough
Date: 5/2/01 8:21AM
Subject: Chairman's Backup Question

Attached is a copy of the OCFO's answer to the Chairman's backup question for the Joint Senate Hearing on Nuclear Energy (Green Ticket 163).

Sharon

CC: Caryn Faircloth; Sheila McKelvin; Susan Bellosi

cc

C/28

Question I.9. License Fees for modular designs: Last year Corbin McNeil commented that the assessment of NRC annual fees on future modular designs should be based on a capacity rather than a per facility basis. What does the NRC think of this assessment method?

Answer.

- The NRC annual fees must be based on the statutory requirement that "to the maximum extent practicable, the charges shall have a reasonable relationship to the cost of providing regulatory services and may be based on the allocation of the Commission's resources among licensees or class of licensees."
- Our fee regulations at 10 CFR Part 171 assess annual fees to licensees based on the type of license they hold. Operating power reactors is a class of licenses and the annual fee is the same for each operating license.
- The Commission has not evaluated fee options for future reactor designs and therefore, has not reached any conclusion relative to whether to change the current annual fee assessment method for future modular designs. However, the Commission is prepared to evaluate options based on new future reactor designs and licenses. Any resultant change would be accomplished through rulemaking.

Chairman/OCFO
4/26/01